

**Town Hall Meeting Summary**  
**January 11, 2010**  
**Summerlin Library and Performing Arts Center**

**Attendance**

Mayor Oscar B. Goodman  
Councilman Wolfson  
Councilman Ross  
Sheriff Doug Gillespie  
Betsy Fretwell  
Department Directors

**Summary of Event**

The auditorium, which seats 285, was completely full. There **was** also a line of people outside of the door who were asked to attend future town hall meetings. When asked how many participants were City employees, approximately 70% of the audience raised their hand. Later in the evening, when asked how many participants were firefighters or friends/family of firefighters approximately 80% raised their hands.

Following the presentation by Betsy Fretwell, David Riggleman moderated the dialogue by asking questions that were written down from the audience participants. The questions are listed below.

In addition, Councilman Wolfson asked the audience to bring forward any suggestions for helping the City balance the budget. There were two people who presented suggestions:

1. Stop the closure at Veterans Memorial Pool. Councilman Wolfson addressed the suggestion.
2. Work with other government agencies to re-evaluate the tax structure and then work with the State on a reasonable approach to modifying the tax structure. The Mayor addressed the suggestion.

**The following were questions/suggestions/comments that were provided and will be included in the public record.**

**Questions regarding Fire Department**

Re: Stations

1. The City has now stopped all capital improvement projects to include the fire station which borders our ward. Was this stopped due to the lack of funds and what is the current balance of the fire services capital projects fund? And what is the current balance of the Fire Services capital project funds?
2. Why are they closing some fire stations? Makes me wonder what is really going on with our system. It is absolutely insane! They are the ones who help save our lives, everything from the smallest of issues to the largest. They also support the school system and our children look up to them. Don't shut down any fire stations, we need every firefighter we got.

Re: Fire Personnel and Relative Expenses

3. How many hours of OT did LVF&R work in last year? How many personnel worked those hours?
4. What is a secondary responder and has the city shut down those that respond to 911 calls? Are they battalion chiefs and their aides who are part of the primary response?
5. What are the current staff reductions with LVF&R and what are the future plans if the first rounds are not enough? What is the total number of vacant positions that the LVF&R currently has?
6. Did LVF&R come in under budget for FY 2009 and are they under budget for FY 2010?
7. Please explain how brown outs will affect the LVF&R and paramedics.
8. What are your plans on collecting monies owed to the city for EMS? We need to bill the 9 million dollars and collect half?
9. Is it better to pay OT to LVF&R vs. hiring new firefighters?
10. If we hire more people at LVF&R won't it cost more? Are we close to paying them what other cities pay their firefighters?
11. Cuts to the Fire Department; hopefully the City has reviewed all options to cut expenses without jeopardizing our safety with Police and Fire Dept.?
12. As city residents we currently voted on in November of 2000 are LVF&R still an insurance service office (ISO) class 1 rated fire department? Which will assure us the lowest possible fire insurance rates?
13. Why 24hr shifts for the Fire Dept. LA County uses 12 hr shifts?

#### **Questions regarding CLV Budget**

Re: Personnel and associated costs

14. Where does the city spend money where volunteers could offset the cost? Also why not raise summer /winter camp fees?
15. Do you support the Governor's position to abolish collective bargaining?
16. Were your electives guaranteed no layoffs for the 8% pay cut? If so will you make the same offer to the city marshals? Will that same offer be made to the other collective bargaining units?
17. What city services are likely to be cut back or terminated if the LV firefighters do not moderate their compensation demands and share the burden of the current recession with the rest of the citizens of LV? What effect will the cutbacks and elimination of services have on the citizens?
18. Will the CM be taking a 16% pay cut?
19. Are the current expenditures outpacing the current revenues collected by the city?
20. What was the ending fund balance for FY 2009 and what percentage of the total budget does that amount to?

21. You said budget was at 2003 level, why don't you eliminate the extra programs that weren't available back then?
22. Has the city spent any money to date out of the city of LV revenue stabilization fund? What is the current fund?
23. How can you ruin the budget when you knew real estate and retail sales were so poor in 2005 and 2006?

Re: Taxes

24. Since we are not at our maximum allowable tax rate. Why not split the difference between the current rate and what is allowed? It could raise about 19 million.
25. Hotels and conventions should be taxed more.
26. As far as taxes from property sales, gambling decreases, have you attempted to pursue fair tax collection from businesses, such as K-Mart, Walmart and other services job creating firms?
27. What has the Mayor and Council done specifically to increase revenue at the state level?

Re: Solar Power

28. Why don't you put solar panels on CC schools to generate power? They did it in Scottsdale, AZ. Now they sell access electricity back to the power company.
29. We should solve the employment and water issue in by using solar and renewal energies, destination plants with California? In trade for energy we have a water pipeline. We should employ thousands and to find it we can sell water bonds municipal bonds?

Re: Volunteers and Alternative Work Programs

30. Why doesn't the city create service based work programs single shifts 6pm-2am. Security persons for local parks, city beautification programs?
31. Where does the city spend money where volunteers could offset the cost?

Re: Fleet Services

32. Why does the city waste so much money on expensive new cars? Don't they have mechanics who can fix the fleet currently?
33. How many vehicles are in the LV motor pools? Can we use one of those?
34. Why do you allow City vehicles to be driven home by employees as far as Mojapa Valley? All vehicles should stay in the City.

Re: New City Hall

35. Why are we building a new city hall?
36. What will the total cost of the payments be on the bonds that were issued for construction of the new city hall?

37. Why should government employees in all areas lose wages and jobs so the Mayor can establish his legacy by building a new city hall and sports arena?
38. Why build the new city hall? You need to hire more people.
39. Why is the city embarking on building a new city hall when you're cutting employees? All building should be stopped until the budget crisis is resolved.

#### **Questions regarding Law Enforcement**

40. Why have we not heard anything about the Metro budget? Have you all considered consolidating the LVR & R along with Clark County F & R?
41. Why don't they cut Metro's budget by putting two officers to a vehicle vs. only one? Also cutting back on expensive vehicles purchased to more responsible budget?
42. Has the city considered the importance of law enforcement related to terrorism? Will it continue to fund law enforcement to protect our cities investment?
43. The budget presentation showed a public safety budget of 486 million dollars. The Fire Dept. budget is 117 million. What other departments or agencies are funded with the other 369 million dollars and at what amount?

#### **Questions regarding Leisure Services**

44. Will you be stopping the expensive enclosure at the Vet's Memorial Center Pool?
45. Services provided to developmentally challenged people already are a cost, please consider carefully when evaluating these services, since they provide developmental and care for this group of citizens. Why not charge more money to bring in revenue?
46. New Sport facility: Why was the land and park facility given to a private party without compensation to the city?